[4th April 1950

*The Agricultural Labour Enquiry.*

* 43 *Q.*—SRI P. R. K. SARMA (on behalf of Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have perused a telegraphic summary of the findings of the Agricultural Labour Enquiry conducted by the Government of India in the village of Vandalur in Chingleput district;

(*b*) whether the Government have asked for a fuller report;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the conditions prevailing in Vandalur are typical of similar state of affairs existing in the other villages of the State;

(*d*) whether the Government have under consideration any proposals to secure appreciable improvement, at least in the course of some years, of the economic condition of villages; and

(*e*) whether a similar enquiry has been undertaken or is proposed to be undertaken in the villages coming under the Firka Development Scheme?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) We have received a full report on the preliminary enquiry into the conditions of agricultural workers in Vandalur. This was done as a pilot scheme preceding a more comprehensive enquiry.

" (*c*) Conditions in any one village cannot be typical of all the villages in the State. To ascertain the prevailing conditions similar enquiries will be conducted in 84 villages in the State, selected on the principle of random sampling.

" (*d*) The Firka Development Scheme and Government Khadi Scheme have this object in view. Other measures can best be considered when the enquiry has been completed.

" (*e*) No Sir, but a scheme for a Socio-Economic Enquiry in selected firkas has been sanctioned by the Government."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether the enquiry at Vandalur was conducted independently by the Government of India or in association with the Government of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It is an independent enquiry by the Government of India."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether the Government of Madras will institute an enquiry into the other villages in the Firka Development Scheme, whether a questionnaire will be issued and whether Members of this House as well as some non-officials will be associated with the enquiry? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" If the hon. Member is referring to my answer to clause (*e*), that is, about Socio-Economic Enquiry proposed to be conducted in selected

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firkas, I cannot say exactly now whether a questionnaire will be issued or not. I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question on the matter."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether the Government would be good enough to call for a full text of the report and supply it for the information of the Members of this House?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I have already said that we have received a full text of the report regarding the Vandalur enquiry."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether it will be furnished for the information of the hon. Members of this House?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I don't think it will serve any purpose, because it is one of the 84 villages that have been taken up as a sort of pilot scheme. It would be advantageous perhaps to supply to the hon. Members of this House more detailed information which we may get after some time."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know for information what aspects of agricultural labour problem were gone into by the Enquiry Committee of the Government of India?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I do not have all the details readily with me just now, but I can give the hon. Member an idea as to some of the important points gone into by the Committee. They are : method of cultivation, size of holdings, crops grown on wet lands, rainfall, livestock, price of foodgrains, existence of co-operative societies, wages of workers and several other details. If the hon. Member wants to have fuller details, then I should like to have notice."

*Dairy farms in the State.*

* 44 *Q.*—SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of dairy farms in the State;

(*b*) the quantity of milk produced in the various farms respectively; and

(*c*) whether the Government are running them at a loss or profit?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) It is presumed that the question refers to the dairy farms run at Government cost and if so, there is only one such dairy farm at Visakhapatnam.

" (*b*) The dairy produced 74,558 lb. of milk during the month of January 1950.

" (*c*) It is too early to say whether the farm is running at a loss or profit as no annual balance sheet has yet been prepared."

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government propose to start any more milk production societies or farms?"